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**FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH**

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FROM : **Embassy, Montevideo**

437 ESP. NO.

TO : **THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.**

April 6, 1954

REF : **Department's A-37, October 20, 1953.**

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	REC'D 4-10	OTHER CIA-5	

SUBJECT: **INFORMATION ON BOUNDARY BETWEEN URUGUAY AND ARGENTINA**

There is transmitted herewith an informal translation of a note dated March 31, 1954, from the Uruguayan Ministry of Foreign Affairs giving certain information requested by the Department regarding the status of segments of the boundary between Uruguay and Argentina.

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United States of America and acknowledges receipt of Note Verbale 179 of February 24 of the present year containing an inquiry concerning the status of segments of the boundaries between Uruguay and Argentina.

Respecting the aforementioned inquiry, this Ministry has the honor to advise the following:

1. That on the map entitled "Latin America. Status of Boundaries, Scale 1:17,500,000, Department of State, Map Division 10169, November 1946 (First Revision July 1947)", it would be appropriate to make the corrections expressed below on the following segments of the boundaries:

(a) The Uruguay River in the part which is a boundary between Uruguay and Argentina has no demarcation or treaty to establish it so that from its outlet in El Plata it is necessary to change the green tracing from "demarcated" to "undefined".

(b) Respecting the River de la Plata, it is believed desirable to retain the cartographic captions which appear on said map, not only on the general Latin American map, but also on the one of larger scale which is shown as A. Above all, this Map A is of interest since on it figure opinions of Uruguayan authorities as an expression of an Uruguayan-Argentine position in a platense dispute which is still far from taking into account such advanced views. It should be made clear that on cited Map A there appears a part of the mouth of the River Uruguay on the River de la Plata with the caption "demarcated" and that part should have the same caption as the rest of the Uruguay River already mentioned under (a).

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(c) In the north segment of our boundary on which the boundary between Uruguay and Brazil is part of the Guarema River, it is advisable to indicate that in this sector there is no demarcation and the caption which should be used would be that of "delimited".

(d) Lastly and beyond the Guarema River, the arroyo of the Invernada and not the Mancebo is the boundary in a small sector of our frontier with Brazil. The latter is used as boundary on the other small map labelled "Uruguay" and also in that entitled "Latin America Status of Boundaries, Scale 1:17,500,000 Department of State, Map Division 10169, November 1946 (First Revision July 1947)". Likewise between both arroyos (Invernada and Mancebo) the indication "disputed" or "disputed territory" should appear, in this last case should the map scale permit it since the disputed territory embraces 30,000 hectares.

This Ministry must moreover inform the Embassy that there are no official maps indicating boundaries on the Uruguay River or the River de la Plata, nor are there any general maps of boundaries of the Republic.

Montevideo, March 31, 1954.

FOR THE AMBASSADOR

*Edward G. Trumbull*  
 Edward G. Trumbull  
 Counselor of Embassy

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**SECURITY INFORMATION**

URUGUAY  
Embassy: Montevideo

In an effort to ascertain the present status of the boundaries in Uruguay, we would appreciate any information in the possession of the embassy in regard to the following specific segments of the border:

- 1) Uruguay - Argentina boundary  
(Between 30°00' - 34°00'S, 58°00'W). Boundary erroneously shown on enclosed map, scale: 1:17,500,000, as "demarcated" (should have been "undefined").
- 2) Claims by both Uruguay and Argentina in the Rio de La Plata (between 34°00' - 36°00'S, 56°00'W) shown as inset A on map.

It is suggested that an official statement from an appropriate agency of the Uruguay<sup>an</sup> Government be obtained regarding their interpretation of the present status of the above-mentioned segments of the boundary. A possible source to be contacted for an accurate presentation of the boundary, including information on official demarcation maps, is the Instituto Geográfico Militar. Copies of recent border documents, textual materials, and official publications, if available, would be of considerable value.

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